

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
10 March 2005 (10.03.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/020893 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/025653

(22) International Filing Date: 6 August 2004 (06.08.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
10/635,333 6 August 2003 (06.08.2003) US
10/722,200 25 November 2003 (25.11.2003) US

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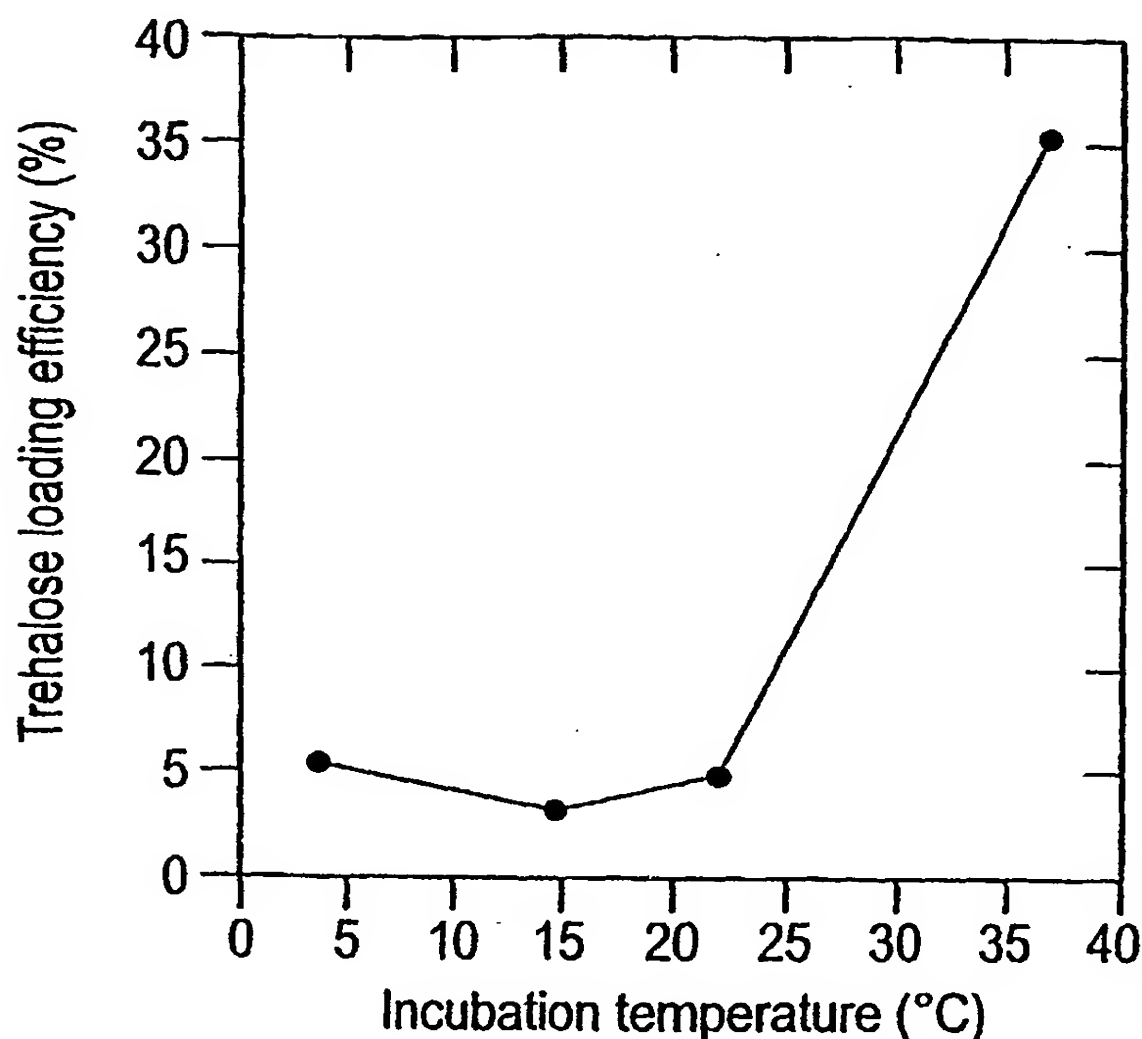
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: THERAPEUTIC PLATELETS AND METHODS



(57) Abstract: The invention provides methods for loading a preservative into blood platelets comprising providing a preservative solution having a preservative, water and protein, and loading blood platelets with the preservative solution to produce preservative-loaded blood platelets having the preservative solution generally including higher glass transition temperatures than glass transition temperatures for a preservative solution having the preservative, water and no protein. A process for processing blood platelets comprising suspending blood platelets in a preservative solution at a concentration greater than about 108 platelets per ml. of preservative solution to produce preservative-loaded blood platelets, freeze-drying the preservative-loaded blood platelets, and recovering at least 75% of the freeze-dried platelets. A platelet composition comprising blood platelets loaded with a preservative

solution having a preservative, water, and protein, and generally further having higher glass transition temperatures than glass transition temperatures for blood platelets loaded with the preservative, water, but no protein.

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GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

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